

Subpart J—Approval of Independently Administered Tests; Specification of Passing Score; Approval of State Process

SOURCE: 60 FR 61838, Dec. 1, 1995, unless otherwise noted.

§ 668.141 Scope.

(a) This subpart sets forth the provisions under which a student who has neither a high school diploma nor its recognized equivalent may become eligible to receive Title IV, HEA program funds by—

(1) Achieving a passing score, specified by the Secretary, on an independently administered test approved by the Secretary under this subpart; or

(2) Being enrolled in an eligible institution that participates in a State process approved by the Secretary under this subpart.

(b) Under this subpart, the Secretary sets forth—

(1) The procedures and criteria the Secretary uses to approve tests;

(2) The basis on which the Secretary specifies a passing score on each approved test;

(3) The procedures and conditions under which the Secretary determines that an approved test is independently administered; and

(4) The procedures and conditions under which the Secretary determines that a State process demonstrates that students in the process have the ability to benefit from the education and training being offered to them.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1091(d))

§ 668.142 Special definitions.

The following definitions apply to this subpart:

Assessment center: A center that—

(1) Is located at an eligible institution that provides two-year or four-year degrees, or qualifies as an eligible public vocational institution, *i.e.* a “postsecondary vocational institution;”

(2) Is responsible for gathering and evaluating information about individual students for multiple purposes, including appropriate course placement;

(3) Is independent of the admissions and financial aid processes at the institution at which it is located;

(4) Is staffed by professionally trained personnel; and

(5) Does not have as its primary purpose the administration of ability-to-benefit tests.

Computer-based test: A test taken by a student on a computer and scored by a computer.

Disabled student: A student who has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such an impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment.

General learned abilities: Cognitive operations, such as deductive reasoning, reading comprehension, or translation from graphic to numerical representation, that may be learned in both school and non-school environments.

Non-native speaker of English: A person whose first language is not English and who is not fluent in English.

Secondary school level: As applied to “content,” “curricula,” or “basic verbal and quantitative skills,” refers to basic knowledge or skills generally learned in the 9th through 12th grades in United States secondary schools.

Test administrator: An individual who may give tests under this subpart.

Test item: A question on a test.

Test publisher: An individual, organization, or agency that owns a registered copyright of a test, or is licensed by the copyright holder to sell or distribute a test.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1091(d))

§ 668.143. Approval of State tests or assessments.

(a) The Secretary approves tests or other assessments submitted by a State that the State uses to measure a student’s skills and abilities for the purpose of determining whether the student has the skills and abilities the State expects of a high school graduate in that State.

(b) The Secretary approves passing scores or other methods of evaluation established by the State for each test or assessment described in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) If the Secretary approves a State’s tests and assessments and the